



UNIVERSITY of ROCHESTER  
STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION  
GOVERNMENT

## **French Toast**

### **ARTICLE I - ESTABLISHMENT**

We the students, faculty, and staff of the University of Rochester hereby establish French Toast / The French Toast Club (TFTC) of the University of Rochester and enact this constitution for its governance. Failure to follow this constitution could result in penalties or revocation of Students' Association recognition of this organization.

### **ARTICLE II - MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of French Toast is to celebrate and cultivate a deeper understanding of the rich and diverse culture of France and the Francophone world. We aspire to foster a passion for the French language and create a welcoming community to connect people from various backgrounds who share a love for France and the Francophone world.

### **ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

#### **SECTION ONE - MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Eligibility - All Students' Association (SA) members shall be eligible for membership. An SA Member is a University of Rochester undergraduate of the College who has paid their SA activities fee. All members and associate members shall be listed on the organization's Campus Community Connection site. Membership is automatically renewed yearly unless the member graduates, requests to cancel their membership, or fails to meet membership requirements.
- B. Definition of active member – A student is considered an active member and is eligible to run for executive board if they attend 33% of meetings each semester.
- C. Definition of associate member - All University of Rochester faculty, staff, graduate students and Eastman students shall be eligible for associate membership but not eligible to hold an officer position. Graduate students, faculty, and staff are not eligible to perform, compete, nor travel as part of a college student organization.

## **ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS AND VOTING**

### **SECTION ONE - QUORUM**

- A. A meeting shall be valid if a quorum is present. Quorum is defined as 1/2 of the active membership plus one officer.

### **SECTION TWO - VOTING**

- A. Voting on any issue shall be official only if the meeting is valid.
- B. All members shall have equal voting power.
- C. Procedure – All decisions shall be arrived at by simple majority using a hand vote unless otherwise specified by the presiding officer. The Président shall only vote to break a tie.

## **ARTICLE V - OFFICERS AND QUALIFICATIONS**

### **SECTION ONE - OFFICER POSITIONS**

- A. Président: one must have been an active member for at least a year or more, unless no one else is qualified.
- B. Vice Président: one must have been an active member for at least a year or more, unless no one else is qualified.
- C. Secrétaire
- D. Business Manager
- E. Culture & Language Ambassador
- F. Public Relations Officer

### **SECTION TWO - DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

- A. All officers shall be members of the Students' Association.
- B. All officers shall promote active recruitment of new members.
- C. All officers shall enforce this constitution.
- D. All officers shall be responsible for knowing the sections of the Students' Association constitution and bylaws that apply to this organization.
- E. The Président shall preside over the meetings and shall maintain organization within the club, communicate with other officers and delegate duties to maintain a functioning club that fulfills the purposes set forth above. The Président shall also act as a liaison with organization advisors and external forces to ensure future success of the organization.
- F. The Business Manager shall be responsible for maintaining all finances and keeps detailed records of all transactions.
- G. The Vice Président shall be responsible in assisting the Président in planning and executing events, meetings, and activities. The Vice Président shall also lead general and executive meetings or activities in the Président's absence and ensures that the club runs smoothly.
- H. The Secrétaire shall be responsible for maintaining a current copy of this constitution open to inspection by all members of this organization, Senators, and

all members of the Students' Association. The Secrétaire shall also take roll call at all meetings, tally votes, keep an accurate list of organization members and take and maintain meeting minutes, as well as manage emails.

- I. The Cultural & Language Ambassador shall be responsible for organize events that celebrate French culture, such as film screenings, cooking classes, or celebrations of French holidays. The Cultural & Language Ambassador shall also oversee the Conversation Café.
- J. The Public Relations Officer shall handle all the organization's social media accounts to publicize activities, keep members informed and attract new followers. The Public Relations Officer shall also build and maintain relationships with other clubs, organizations, or departments that might collaborate with French Toast on events or projects.
- K. In the absence of a full executive board, the members must divide and share responsibilities designated to the absent board position(s) until they are refilled.

### **SECTION THREE - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

- A. Nomination and Elections Procedure - The board selection process will be conducted with a focus on fairness and objectivity. The entire current Executive Board will convene to review written applications in a blind process, ensuring that no identifying information about the applicants is revealed. Each application will be rated on a standardized scale to maintain fairness across all evaluations. Based on these scores, the top candidates will advance to the interview stage. During the interviews, the Secrétaire, Président, and Vice Président will meet with the applicants, with the Secrétaire taking detailed notes. Both the Président and Vice Président will independently rate each interview on separate scoring sheets.
  - a. In cases where there are many applicants, only those with the highest scores from the written application review will proceed to the interview stage. Ultimately, the applicants with the highest cumulative scores from both the written applications and interviews will be selected to fill the board positions for the next academic year. The active membership will vote to confirm the selection.
  - b. Executive board members must reapply every year.
  - c. If the current Vice Président or Président is seeking reelection, they must submit a written application like all other candidates. However, to maintain fairness, their applications will be reviewed blindly along with those of other applicants. The current Président and Vice Président must recuse themselves from participating in the review of their own applications.
  - d. If either the Président or Vice Président is running for reelection, they will not participate in the interview process for their own position. Instead, other Executive Board members, such as the Secrétaire and an impartial board member (e.g., the Treasurer), will conduct and score the interviews.

- B. Term of Office – Officers will take office late March, and the term of each position will be one full year.
- C. Timing of Elections - Selection for officer positions will occur annually in early March and at least 2 weeks before the last day of classes. To ensure a smooth transition of leadership, selection will be completed, and the results announced the last week of March. This timing allows for a sufficient transition period before the end of the academic year.

#### **SECTION FOUR - VACANCIES, RESIGNATIONS, AND REMOVALS**

- A. At the first valid meeting following a vacancy of an office, the position is to be filled by the same manner described in *Article V, Section Three*.
- B. A vote of no confidence is a vote to remove an officer. Such a vote shall require a  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority of the entire active membership to pass. Any member of the organization may call for a vote of no confidence.
- C. If a vote of no confidence on any officer is to take place, they must be notified one week in advance.
- D. An office shall be declared vacant as the result of a vote of no confidence.

### **ARTICLE VI - RESOURCES**

#### **SECTION ONE - RESOURCES**

- A. French Toast of the University of Rochester will abide by their Resource Agreement.

### **ARTICLE VII - HAZING POLICY**

Hazing, defined as the harassment of one individual by another individual or organization, is not permitted by the French Toast. Behavior prohibited under this rule includes actions threatening substantial risk of physical or mental injury; actions exposing the individual to distressing, repulsive, or alarming situations or sensations; forced consumption of alcohol or drugs; actions in the form of social pressure which might cause harm to an individual.

### **ARTICLE VIII - NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

The French Toast abides by the nondiscrimination policy of the University of Rochester.



11/8/2024

Signature of Confirmation

Date

Kevin Johnson

**President, French Toast**



11/08/2024

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Signature of Approval

Date

Jessie Li

**Chair, Student Organization Administration & Review Committee**